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Robert Redfield has his sight set dead on target while practicing for the Trap Amateur Association State Shoot last week.

Photo by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Amateurs gather for week-long trap shoot



Francis Coughlin pops a clay pigeon during the Trap Amateur Association State Shoot Friday.

*By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor*

Perfect weather helped to bring nearly a hundred competitors to Fort Huachuca for the Trap Amateur Association State Shoot from Mar. 13 to 19.

The week-long shoot sponsored by the Garden Canyon Trap Club brought competitors from as far away as Canada and Connecticut. Only about 20 percent of the competitors were from the greater Sierra Vista area, leaving the majority of participants to be from out of town.

With a couple of All-American shooters and a nationally ranked shooter on the range, competition was sure to be fast-paced.

“The level of competition is tough,” said Bob Metzler, ranked number two in the country. “It’s hard to compete at this level.”

Shooters tested their skills in three levels of competition, 16-yard singles

and doubles, as well as handicap.

Most of the events had competitors setting their sites on 100 different clay pigeons, with the exception of the 200 Singles event, where competitors shot at 200 pigeons.

“We’ve had a 10 percent increase of competitors from last year,” said Rod Ritter, Trap Amateur Association State Shoot manager. “This is the best weather we’ve ever had.”

With the nearly flawless weather shooters were sure to hit their mark.

“With weather like this scores tend to go up a bit,” Ritter said.

While shooting for a money purse as well as a variety of other prizes competitors kept the level of competition high.

The success of this year’s event brings hope for another shoot next year.

“We want to keep having the event as long as the post keeps supporting us,” Ritter said.



Francis Coughlin waits at the ready for and calls pull. The round was shot in five man staggered format.



Robert Redfield practices assuming a steady position prior to shooting.

Photos by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Knights fall in close battle, take first loss of season

*By Sgt. Julius Stroud, III
Special to The Scout*

Battle lines were drawn in a tough battle last Saturday as the defending champions, the Tucson Dawgs, defeated the Coronado Knights, 28-21.

The Knights received the ball first, but their short drive was halted by a fumble on the Knight 30 yard line. The Dawgs were determined to get the ball into the endzone. On third down a long the Dawgs go to the air for a 24-yard touchdown pass to put the first points of the game on the board.

The second possession for the Knights did not fare much better. The Knights sustained yet another fumble which resulted in another Dawgs touchdown making the score 14-0. Although down and wounded, the gallant Knights rose to the occasion and put together a 50 yard ground attack to close the lead on the Dawgs.

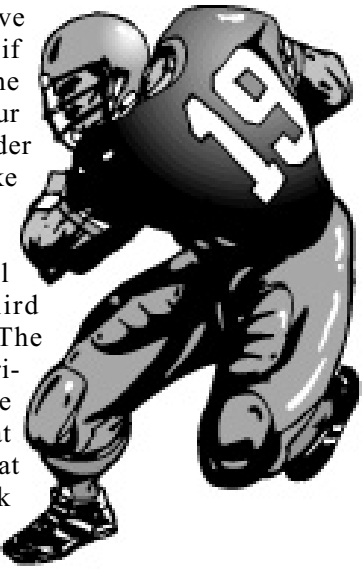
In the start of the third quarter the Knights came out fighting, as #3 Tony Conway faked a reverse to wide out Demonzio Morris and galloped his way into the endzone evening the score up at 14-14. The Knights seemed to have the champions on the ropes anxiously awaiting the knockout punch, but the Dawgs just would not fall. The Dawgs struck back by scoring two unanswered scores making the score 28-14. Finally late in the fourth quarter, the Knights were hanging on for dear life. They would score late (28-21), but Father Time was not on the Knights side that day.

After the game the Tucson coach and players admitted, “We underestimated you guys down in Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca. This was by far the toughest game we have played in 3 years.”

On the Knights sideline the players agreed that it was a tough game. Knight’s Head Coach Dale

Gotchall said, “We have to play smart football if we want to get into the playoffs. I think that our guys will play well under pressure and easily make it into the playoffs.”

With this defeat the Coronado Knights fall to 3-2 and fall to third place in the SAFL. The Knights take on arch rival the Tucson Blaze (ranked #2) Saturday at Barnes Field House at Fort Huachuca. Kick off is scheduled for 7 p.m.



Sports Mixed

Baseball The 1999 Season

Ken Griffey Jr., now with the Cincinnati Reds, led the American League in home runs in 1999 with 48 as a member of the Seattle Mariners. Who finished second?
— Rafael Palmeiro, Texas Rangers, 47.

Only two major league pitchers recorded three shutouts in 1999. Who were they?
— Scott Erickson, Baltimore Orioles and Andy Ashby, San Diego Padres.

How many complete games did Arizona Diamondback pitcher Randy Johnson record in 1999?
— 12.

Who received the most walks in major league baseball in 1999?
— Jeff Bagwell, Houston Astros.

What are the names of the new ballparks replacing Tiger Stadium in Detroit, The Astrodome in Houston, and 3COM Park in San Francisco?
— Comerica Park (Detroit), Enron Field (Houston) and Pacific Bell Park (San Francisco).

How many former Los Angeles Dodgers are currently major league managers?
— Five. (Dusty Baker, San Francisco Giants; Davey Lopes, Milwaukee Brewers; Johnny Oates, Texas Rangers; Mike Scioscia, Anaheim Angels; and Bobby Valentine, New York Mets).

Pedro Martinez of Boston, Jose Lima of Houston and Mike Hampton (now with the New York Mets) were the only 20-game winners in 1999. Who was the one pitcher who fell one short, winning 19 games?
— Greg Maddux, Atlanta Braves, 19-9.

New PT program for pregnant, post-partum soldiers begins Monday

MEDDAC release

Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center is proud to be sponsoring a new physical training initiative for pregnant and post partum soldiers.

The program will begin Monday and will include aerobics/exercise every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:55-7 a.m. at Barnes Field House. In addition, every Thursday at 5:55-7 a.m. there will be an education class on prenatal and infant care (such

as budgeting, car seat safety, nutrition, etc.)

The goals of this program are to improve delivery and health outcomes for mothers and babies, as well as improve the fitness and readiness of the soldier returning to duty after delivery.

The point of contact for this program is Lillie Christian at 533-2246. Encourage your soldiers to attend to improve the outcomes for mother, baby and the Army HUA!

Pack of five gray wolves arrives

Ariz. Game & Fish release

A new Mexican gray wolf pack was placed in an acclimation pen March 14 southeast of Hannagan Meadow in the Blue Primitive Area of the Apache National Forest.

The Steeple Creek Pack, consisting of the alpha pair and three pups born in 1999, were flown to Arizona on Monday from Wolf Haven Internationalm of Tenino, Wash.

Tuesday the wolves were hand-carried and mule-packed several miles into the remote reintroduction site, according to Dan Groebner, Arizona Game and Fish Department Mexican Wolf Project Leader.

The pack will be held in the acclimation pen for a short period, then released before elk calves are born this spring.

Plans call for possible translocation of two packs of wolves into the Gila National Forest in New Mexico and a new pack to be released in the Bear Wallow Wilderness of Apache National Forest this spring.

There are currently 14 Mexican wolves in Arizona, including the five new arrivals.

The Campbell Blue Pack of four, the Hawks Nest Pack of four, and the lone Gavilan yearling that often explores into the Gila National Forest near Snow Lake, NM.

The reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf is a multi-agency cooperative effort of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the USDA-Wildlife Services, U. S. Forest Service.

Bump, pass, spike: Intramural volleyball underway

*By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor*

The Coed Intramural Volleyball League kicked off last Monday, seeing 12 teams start the fight for the honor of best team.

With one week of league play down a few teams have already started out perfect at 2-0. Headquarters, Headquarters Company 40th Signal Battalion and Headquarters, Headquarters Company 11th Signal Brigade are both tied for first in the league.

Although the league is barely underway most teams look solid. Teams like 19th Signal, Company C, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion and Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, 504th Signal all played their first games well.

It is still early in the season and teams can still make a turn for the better.

All teams are competing for a healthy chunk of Commander's Cups points. Since volleyball is considered

a major sport for the cup teams get 50 points for participation and additional points depending where they place in the league.

At the end of the season the top four A League and top four AA League teams will match up for tournament play.

Tournament play will be double elimination seeing the top teams taking home the most Commander's Cup points.

With 12 teams in the league this year competition is going to be close, especially since most of the teams look like they've been playing for a while.

The key to winning the league this year is going to be consistency and teamwork. Teams like Headquarters Company 306th MI are consistent with the basic bump and pass set up, as well as communication. If the 306th can keep it up they should see themselves seated in the playoffs.

It is still hard to say what teams will come out on top this year, but all the teams seem to have high expectations.

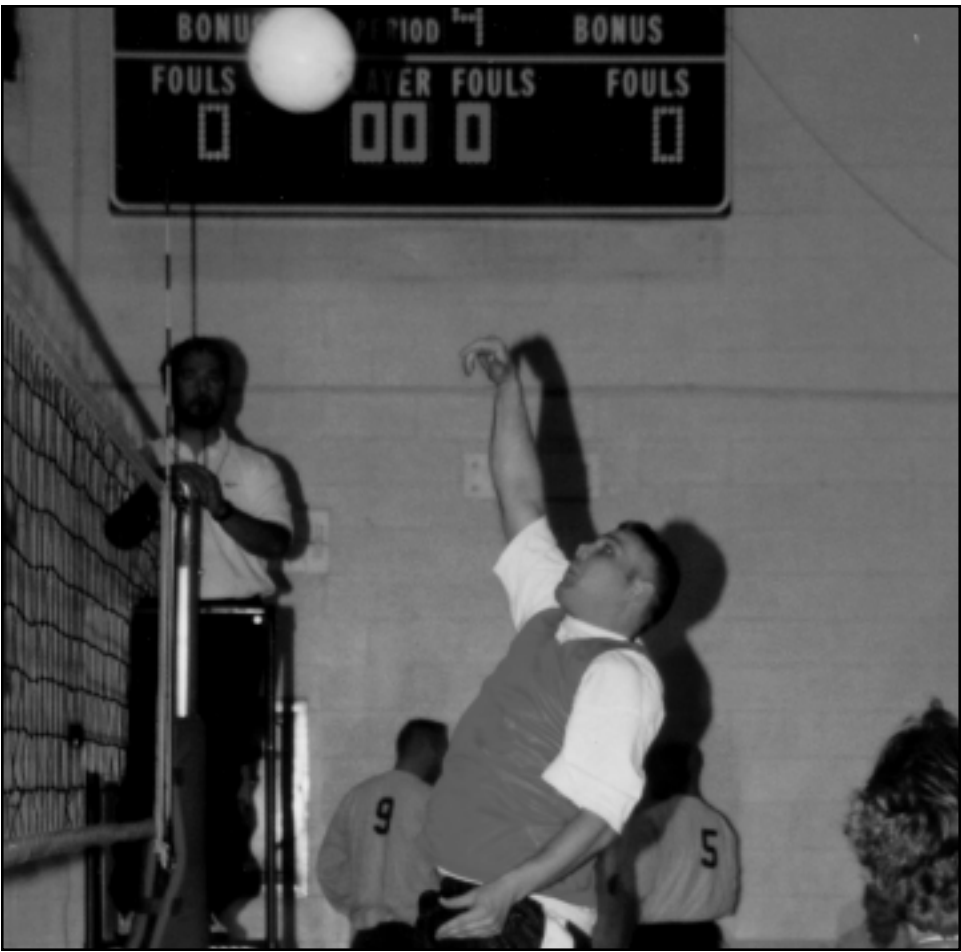


Photo by Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Arthur Gray, Headquarters Company, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion puts one down.

Commentary

Where's the love?

By Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone
Sports Editor

Are we not all working for the same greater cause, defending our nation proudly? Are we not all soldiers away from our families working high-stress jobs trying to make it from day to day?

Sure recreation, such as sports are a way to get away from the everyday stresses of life, of the burdens of the Army.

There's nothing I love more than to

sweat out my aggressions and frustrations on the court. There is a sense of fulfillment when you know you finally worked out all the frustration built up from the annoying detail you were on all day. Working out your problems are one thing, but the softball and football fields aren't the battlefield.

Far too many times have I gone out to cover a game ending in a fight. You can almost predict these fights. The smell of testosterone is clearly in the air,

and the constant badgering and loud mouth comments are sure to get a response. Then it becomes physical. One guy pushes another. Then instinct kicks in and they are throwing punches, trading blows and curses.

Next thing you know both teams clear the bench screaming, "That's my boy, back up," or "Get off of him before I have to raise up." This is absolutely ridiculous. We're all in the same family, the Army family, whether we

like it or not. We're all in sister companies or battalions, working for the same missions, working to get the job done.

Sure the stresses of work may be overwhelming, but don't take your aggression out on your brothers and sisters. We're all here for the same cause. Don't let your anger get the best of you and play fair. We all use sports as an outlet, don't take away someone else's fun because you are angry.




Photo by Lt. Col. Deborah McNeill

Racing Army style

ATLANTA, Ga. — Military NASCAR autos were unveiled March 12 during pre-race activities for the Cracker Barrel 500 Winston Cup at the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga. The Army car, with driver Mike Skinner, will race for the first time in the Coca-Cola 600 in Charlotte, N.C., May 28, as part of a salute to the military for Memorial Day. At the ceremony unveiling the car, Brig. Gen. Mitchell Zais, chief of staff, U.S. Army Reserve Command, represented the Army and retired Gen. Colin Powell served as the race's Grand Marshall. The car's owners and sponsors have allowed space on the car for Army markings.

Process to down-list Gila trout may start soon

Ariz. Game & Fish release

TUCSON — The process to possibly down-list the Gila trout from federally endangered to threatened could begin later this year if everything falls into place, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission was advised March 18 during its meeting here.

Terry B. Johnson, the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Nongame Branch and Endangered Wildlife chief, told the commission that the Gila Trout Recovery Plan says, "Down-listing to threatened status will be considered when all known indigenous lineage's are replicated in the wild."

Gila trout must be established in a sufficient number of drainages so that "no natural or human-caused event may eliminate a lineage."

Gila trout recovery efforts have been underway in New Mexico for quite some time and populations have been established in a number of streams.

With the reintroduction of Gila trout (the Spruce Creek lineage) in Dude Creek near Payson last September, all three recognized lineages of this endangered native trout have now been replicated.

"The success of the Dude Creek stocking was confirmed as recently as Feb. 7 with the observation by department biologists of Gila trout persisting in many pools along Dude Creek. We will continue to keep a close watch on that population," Johnson said.

Johnson also explained that there is a possible fourth strain of Gila Trout in New Mexico's Whiskey Creek, but that population has fewer than 100 fish and analysis has showed little genetic differentiation from other lineage's. "However, the Gila Trout Recovery Team has decided to stock Whiskey Creek fish into the recently renovated Little Creek, which is also in New Mexico, and will not proceed with a proposal for down-listing until that occurs."

Johnson added that the Gila Trout Recovery Team is comfortable moving ahead with a down-listing recommendation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service later this year even without direct evidence of Gila trout reproduction success in Dude Creek.

"Recovery team members could not recall a single Gila trout reintroduction that did not result in natural reproduction. Thus, it seems likely that Dude Creek reproduction will have been confirmed and the Whiskey Creek strain will have been replicated into Little Creek before a Federal Register down-listing package goes to public review, possibly sometime this autumn or even next spring," Johnson told the commission.

That wasn't all the Gila trout news. Arizona may be getting more Gila trout next month as part of an effort to establish a second population in Arizona.

The Spruce Creek Gila trout lineage is the most vulnerable to a possible catastrophic event - a future wild fire. Arizona wildlife officials want to establish two replicas of the Spruce Creek lineage in this state to minimize the chance for a setback to recovery.

The current plan is to obtain 75 to 100 Gila trout from Spruce Creek next month, then bring them to an appropriate federal hatchery, spawn them, and immediately transfer the adult fish to Dude Creek. Then in September or October, Raspberry Creek could be stocked using young-of-year fish from the hatchery if everything comes together, including meeting all the necessary National Environmental Policy Act requirements.

Arizona Game and Fish officials have met with the likely participants in the Raspberry Creek stocking, including the livestock permittee, U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We have had discussions with the livestock operator in that area. To date, everyone supports the proposal to place Gila trout in the Raspberry Creek drainage so the outlook is favorable," Johnson said.

Army pentathlete in fast lane to Summer Olympic Games in Sydney

Army News Service release

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The road to Sydney is wide open for one of the Army's top all-around athletes. Spc. Chad Senior is in the fast lane on his way to the 2000 Summer Olympic Games.

Three years ago, the 25-year-old Army World Class Athlete was just learning the ins and outs of the five-sport Modern Pentathlon. Today, Senior is the nation's top-ranked pentathlete and, by winning the Modern Pentathlon World Cup #1 Olympic Qualifier in Mexico City, Mexico, on March 12, he all but guaranteed himself a spot at the Games in September.

He also became the first American to win an individual Modern Pentathlon World Cup gold medal since 1979.

"It was a huge step," said Senior of the Mexico City win. "Certainly shocked me as well. I was telling someone it's been like a hurricane hit me all at once."

In the last year, Senior has taken the pentathlon world by storm. He has made the finals in every event. He also won the first-ever Biathlon World Championship in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

An administrative specialist by Army trade, Senior has worked hard to improve in the five pentathlon disciplines: fencing, swim-

ming, shooting, running, and equestrian riding.

He said the key to his success is simple.

"I think I've taken a little bit of the pressure off of myself or I've tried to anyway," says the North Fort Myers, Fla., native. "It's kind of an old cliché, but I've tried to have fun with it as opposed to belaboring the mediocre results I might have had. And I think taking a step back and trying to be more relaxed really has helped me."

The 1996 George Washington University graduate holds a degree in exercise science and was a two-time Atlantic 10 Conference champion freestyle swimmer and a Southwest Florida Athlete of the Year in high school.

Senior's win in Mexico City, along with American Velizar Iliev's gold at the 1999 Pan American games, means the United States can send two pentathletes to the Olympics. If he sustains his winning ways in three more competitions, Senior is definitely in the driver's seat to make the U.S. team.

"Yeah, it's mine to lose, so I'm not going to let up the intensity, that's for sure," he said during training for the 20th U.S. Modern Pentathlon World Cup - not an Olympic qualifying event — in San Antonio, Texas. He added, "If anything, now I'm more excited than ever to get back to training. We'll just see how it goes."